

## Claims

1. A printer access control module within a printer that is operable to:  
receive a request from a client computer for printing resource  
5 authorization;  
determine the policy domain of the requesting client computer; and  
grant printing resource authorization based on the determined policy  
domain.
- 10 2. The printer access control module of claim 1, wherein granting printing  
resource authorization comprises granting full printing resource authorization to  
client computers that are members of the policy domain and granting limited  
printing resource authorization to client computers that are not members of the  
policy domain.
- 15 3. The printer access control module of claim 1, wherein granting printing  
resource authorization comprises granting greater printing resource authorization  
to client computers that are members of the policy domain than to client  
computers that are not members of the policy domain
- 20 4. The printer access control module of claim 1, wherein the printing resource  
comprises color printing.
- 25 5. The printer access control module of claim 1, wherein the printing resource  
comprises high-volume printing comprising print jobs over a specified page  
limit.
- 30 6. The printer access control module of claim 1, wherein the printing resource  
comprises specific print media, specific print media comprising at least one of  
letterhead, check stock, glossy paper, and transparencies.
7. The printer access control module of claim 1, wherein the printing resource  
comprises at least one of a maximum cost per page, maximum cost per period of  
time, and maximum pages per period of time.

8. The printer access control module of claim 1, wherein the policy domain comprises a predefined portion of network node addresses on a local area network
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9. The printer access control module of claim 1, wherein the policy domain comprises a predefined group of identifiable users.
10. The printer access control module of claim 1, wherein the policy domain comprises network nodes possessing a printer security key
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11. The printer access control module of claim 1, wherein granting printing resource authorization based on the determined policy domain comprises issuing the client computer a printer security key that identifies the client computer to the printer.
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12. The printer access control module of claim 11, wherein the security key is used with each print job to identify the client's granted printer resource authorization to the printer.
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13. A printer that is operable to:
- receive a request from a client computer for printing resource authorization;
- determine the policy domain of the requesting client computer; and
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- grant printing resource authorization based on the determined policy domain.
14. The printer of claim 13, wherein granting printing resource authorization comprises granting full printing resource authorization to client computers that are members of the policy domain and granting limited printing resource authorization to client computers that are not members of the policy domain.
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15. The printer of claim 13, wherein granting printing resource authorization comprises granting greater printing resource authorization to client computers

that are members of the policy domain than to client computers that are not members of the policy domain

16. The printer of claim 13, wherein the printing resource comprises color  
5 printing.

17. The printer of claim 13, wherein the printing resource comprises high-volume printing comprising print jobs over a specified page limit.

10 18. The printer of claim 13, wherein the printing resource comprises specific print media, specific print media comprising at least one of letterhead, check stock, glossy paper, and transparencies.

19. The printer of claim 13, wherein the printing resource comprises at least one  
15 of a maximum cost per page, maximum cost per period of time, and maximum pages per period of time.

20. The printer of claim 13, wherein the policy domain comprises a predefined portion of network node addresses on a local area network  
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21. The printer of claim 13, wherein the policy domain comprises a predefined group of identifiable users.

22. The printer of claim 13, wherein the policy domain comprises network  
25 nodes possessing a printer security key

23. The printer of claim 13, wherein granting printing resource authorization based on the determined policy domain comprises issuing the client computer a printer security key that identifies the client computer to the printer.  
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24. The printer access control module of claim 23, wherein the security key is used with each print job to identify the client's granted printer resource authorization to the printer.

25. A machine-readable medium with instructions stored thereon, the instructions when executed on a computerized system operable to cause the system to:

- 5       receive a request from a client computer for printing resource authorization;
- determine the policy domain of the requesting client computer; and
- grant printing resource authorization based on the determined policy domain.

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26. The machine-readable medium of claim 25, wherein granting printing resource authorization comprises granting full printing resource authorization to client computers that are members of the policy domain and granting limited printing resource authorization to client computers that are not members of the

15   policy domain.

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27. The machine-readable medium of claim 25, wherein granting printing resource authorization comprises granting greater printing resource authorization to client computers that are members of the policy domain than to client

20   computers that are not members of the policy domain

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28. The machine-readable medium of claim 25, wherein the printing resource comprises color printing.

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29. The machine-readable medium of claim 25, wherein the printing resource comprises high-volume printing comprising print jobs over a specified page limit.

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30. The machine-readable medium of claim 25, wherein the printing resource comprises specific print media, specific print media comprising at least one of letterhead, check stock, glossy paper, and transparencies.

31. The machine-readable medium of claim 25, wherein the printing resource comprises at least one of a maximum cost per page, maximum cost per period of time, and maximum pages per period of time.
- 5     32. The machine-readable medium of claim 25, wherein the policy domain comprises a predefined portion of network node addresses on a local area network.
33. The machine-readable medium of claim 25, wherein the policy domain  
10     comprises a predefined group of identifiable users.
34. The machine-readable medium of claim 1, wherein the policy domain comprises network nodes possessing a printer security key
- 15     35. The machine-readable medium of claim 25, wherein granting printing resource authorization based on the determined policy domain comprises issuing the client computer a printer security key that identifies the client computer to the printer.
- 20     36. The machine-readable medium of claim 35, wherein the security key is used with each print job to identify the client's granted printer resource authorization to the printer.